

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 0853

US CUSTOMS FOR HAROLD BAGELAGATO, IOD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, PINS, AU
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC REPORT ON DR. RUDOLF HOFER, CCINC TRAINEE

REF: VIENNA 0432

1. FOLLOWING IS A BIOGRAPHIC REPORT ON DR. RUDOLF HOFER,
DIRECTOR, CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT OFFICE, GRAZ,
AUSTRIA.

2. DR. RUDOLF HOFER BECAME DIRECTOR OF THE
CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT OFFICE FOR THE PROVINCE
OF STYRIA FIVE YEARS AGO FOLLOWING TEN YEARS' PRIOR
SERVICE IN THAT OFFICE. THE STYRIA CUSTOMS DISTRICT INCLUDES
THE MAJOR RAIL AND HIGHWAY CORSSOING POINTS BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND
YUGOSLAVIA AND THUS LIES ATHWART THE PRINCIPAL OVERLAND ROUTES
FOR SMUGGLING OPIATES AND OTHER DRUGS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST
INTO CENTRAL EUROPE. IN OCTOBER 1972, DR. HOFER PARTICIPATED
IN A TWO-WEEK NARCOTICS CONTROL TRAINING COURSE CONDUCTED IN
AUSTRIA BY THE U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA).
SINCE THEN HE HAS COOPERATED CLOSELY WITH DEA SPECIAL
AGENTS IN VIENNA ON DRUG ENFORCEMENT MATTERS IN HIS
CUSTOMS DISTRICT. THE U.S. SPECIAL AGENTS CONSIDER THE
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STYRIA CUSTOMS DISTRICT ONE OF THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT
IN AUSTRIA FROM THE STANDPOINT OF INTERNATIONAL
NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS AND ALSO CONSIDER THE
DISTRICT'S NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES THE MOST
EFFECTIVE. DR. HOFER HAS STATED THAT HE DEVOTES FORTY
PERCENT OF HIS TIME TO DRUG CONTROL OPERATIONS.

3. DR. HOFER WAS BORN AT REICHSBORG, STYRIA PROVINCE, AUSTRIA, ON AUGUST 17, 1940. HE RECEIVED A DOCTORATE IN LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ IN 1961. HE STUDIED ENGLISH IN LONDON FOR FIVE MONTHS IN 1962-1963. HE STILL UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH QUITE WELL BUT NOW SPEAKS IT ONLY MODERATELY WELL. HE ALSO SPEAKS SWEDISH.

4. DR. HOFER HAS A YOUTHFUL AND ENERGETIC APPEARANCE. HE IS 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL WITH A WIRY PHYSIQUE AND RATHER ANGULAR FEATURES.. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND A FAIR COMPLEXION. HE WEARS HIS LIGHT BROWN HAIR MODISHLY LONG AND HAS A DARK BROWN MUSTACHE AND ABBREVIATED BEARD.

5. DR. HOFER RESIDES WITH HIS WIFE, HELMA, AT ST. PETER HAUPTSTRASSE 29 B/9 IN GRAZ. MRS. HOFER IS A SCHOOL TEACHER. THEY HAVE NO CHILDREN. DR. HOFER SKIS SWIMS AND ENJOYS CLASSICAL MUSIC. BUCHANAN

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